THE

GOBRECHT

JOURNAL

For Collectors

of the

LIBERTY SEATED COIN SERIES

VOLUME TWENTY ISSUE #60

QUARTERS

1853-O	EF, a super choice original coin	$140
1856-O	VF, nice original, no problems	45
1857-O	VF, medium to dark toning, sharp	45
1864	VF++, nice toning	145
1870	VF, nice original toning, one old reverse scratch	125
1875-S	VG/G, an original coin, not bad	18
1875-S	Fine+, nicely toned, one tiny obverse scratch	45
1875-S	EF, sharp, bright from old cleaning	110
1878	EF, super nice original, tiny reverse rim ding	37
1879	VF, old cleaning but not bad	200
1884	PCGS VF-20, a gem original coin	295
1887	PCGS Fine-12, no problems, rare grade	315
1887	PCGS MS-63, beautiful original toning	775
1890	PCGS MS-62, choice, scarce	525

HALF DOLLARS

1849	EF, a gem original, nice	$115
1855	EF, sharp, old cleaning, priced below bid	63
1855	EF+, old obverse cleaning, a decent coin	70
1859	VG, nice original, no problems	26
1859	EF, sharp medium toning, priced cheap	80
1862	EF+, super nice, a gem for the grade	170
1866-S	EF, old cleaning, but not bad	65
1868	EF, ancient cleaning, retoned, one tiny obverse spot	130
1869	EF, old cleaning, some light circulation marks	55
1873	NA Closed 3, Good+, nice, but a minor obverse stain	17
1888	Good+, nice full rim, original, scarce	175

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QUARTERS

1840-O WD Large O	any grade
1843-O Large O	any grade
1853 NA	any grade
1857-S	G,VG,F
1860-S	G,VG
1864-S	G,VG,F
1866	G,VG
1866-S	G,VG
1867-S	G,VG,F
1870-CC	G,VG
1871-CC	G,VG
1871-S	any grade
1872-S	any grade
1873-CC	G,VG
1884	G,VG
1886	G,VG,F

HALF DOLLARS

1844-O Doubled Date	G,VG
1849 Doubled Date	G,VG
1850	G,VG
1851	G,VG
1852	G,VG
1856-S	G,VG
1866-S NM	Good
1870-CC	Good
1874-CC	G,VG
1878-CC	Good
1884	G,VG
1885	G,VG
1886	G,VG
1887	G,VG
1889	G,VG

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A Spectacular Blunder, Identified as Possibly an 1853/1853/2 Half Dime

by

Al Blythe

Until now very little has been written about the 1853 With Arrows half dime. This is not surprising since this date has a mintage of 13,210,020 pieces and is considered to be the most common date in the Seated half dime series. As Breen stated in his Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins, " These coins went into circulation and stayed there, for which reason they are not often seen in perfect mint state. Until recent decades, coin dealers would not stock them in any grade because they were so common in G to VF and in higher grades they were neglected because nobody thought them worth keeping."

I was recently contacted by Michael Hodder who told me of his discovery of an interesting unlisted variety of the 1853 With Arrows half dime. This slabbed specimen graded AU-55 and was offered at auction by Stack's in their Coin Galleries Sale of February 1994. Their catalogue description of Lot #1872 properly identified this coin as having a repunched date, and also suggested that there might be a 2 underneath the repunched 3. The grading service made no mention of this and described the coin only as an 1853 With Arrows half dime. A winning bid on my part in this sale has provided me with the opportunity to research this piece in detail and to report this new find to the numismatic community.

My research indicates that we can now add another Blundered Date variety to the list of such errors known for the decades of the 1840s and 1850s during which James B. Longacre was involved in the preparation of coinage dies at the mint. This long list of Blundered Date half dimes of the 1850s already includes the 1854 repunched dates, the 1856/4 proof, the 1856-O repunched dates, the 1858/18, the 1858 Over Inverted Date, the 1858 Doubled Date and the 1859 repunched dates. We can now add to this list the 1853/1853/2 With Arrows half dime.

Obverse Characteristics

1853/1853/2 Half Dime

The discovery specimen has a strong strike with a full head and toe and with no weakness in the shield. There is some evidence of die clashing. All thirteen stars have well defined radials. The denticles are moderately well defined, a characteristic that is an exception rather than the rule for 1850s half dimes. None of the numerals in the final date touch the base of the rock, and the date runs slightly downhill from left to right. The right side of the upright of the 1 lines up midway between the 8th and 9th stripes in the shield, and the tip of the shield points to the top of the upper serif of the 1. The pendant on the gown is over the right side of the flag of the 5. The top barb of the left arrow touches the base of the rock, but the top barb of the right arrow does not. Neither arrow point touches a denticle, but the left one is closer. It is also noted that the arrow heads on this particular variety have distinctly different shapes. The base into which the right shaft extends has less of an arc than does the left arrow.

Date on 1853/1853/2 Half Dime

Very spectacular and prominent remains of an earlier 185 can be seen over the final date just below the base of the rock. The earlier mispunch is located about the width of one full numeral to the right of the final date. The top of an earlier 1 can be seen directly over the final 8 with a small die crack extending down to the top of the final 1. The top of an earlier 8 can be seen directly over the final 5. The top of an earlier 5 can be seen directly over the final 3, and the shadow of the bottom portion of the earlier 5 can be seen between the bottoms of the final 5 and 3. The remains of an earlier 3 are partly concealed by the shaft of the right arrow and more difficult to see. Under 60X magnification there appears to be the ghost outline of an earlier 2 directly under the earlier 3 beneath the right arrow shaft. However, additional microscopic analysis is needed to confirm this.

Valentine listed twelve varieties for the 1853 half dime but his descriptions of these varieties are woefully inadequate compared to today's diagnostic techniques. Because of the large number of dies used to strike this issue, it is certainly possible that there are still other interesting but unlisted varieties of this date yet to be discovered. Perhaps someone will accept the challenge and conduct an extensive study of the 1853 With Arrows half dime.

An extensive search of the numismatic literature has uncovered no earlier reference to this spectacular blunder. Because of the high grade of the discovery specimen, the mistake of a mint worker made long ago is clearly seen. It appears that no attempt was made to efface the tops of the earlier numerals. The remnants of the earlier digits are strong enough so that they would be seen even on low grade specimens.

Until additional examples of this variety are discovered, I must assume that it is indeed rare. This variety has been identified as an 1853/1853 blundered date, and possibly an 1853/1853/2 variety. No Valentine number or rarity rating has been assigned to this new variety at this time.

The pictures of the 1853/1853/2 half dime were taken by Tom Mulvaney. Comments on the information provided in this article are welcome and can be made by contacting me as follows: Al Blythe, P.O. Box 474, Bishop, California 93515.

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Grade Analysis of 1993 Seated Quarter Survey Data

by

Larry Briggs

Last fall LSCC members were sent a survey form and asked to report the date and grade of all Seated quarters in their possession. This survey form was returned by 103 club members who reported a total of 3937 coins in the series. A rarity analysis of the important varieties in the series was presented in Issue #59 of the journal. The purpose of this article is to present a listing of each date by grade as prepared from the survey data.

Before presenting the survey data for grade analysis it should be mentioned that two errors in addition were made in the data prepared for Issue #59 of the journal. The total number of 1840-O No Drapery coins reported was 40 instead of the 15 listed in the last issue. This corrected figure makes the 1840-O No Drapery coins more common than the With Drapery specimens of this date, a relationship more in line with my personal experiences. This makes the corrected total number of 1840-O quarters reported equal to 75. Also, the total number of 1857 quarters reported should have been 71 instead of the listed figure of 34 given in Issue #59. Again this corrected figure of 71 is more in line with my experiences for the relative rarity of this date in the series. Table 1 provides a listing of each date in the series by frequency and grade with the two corrections made in the originally reported totals. This table should help the collector better understand the relative rarity of each date by grade. But it should be kept in mind that this listing does not represent a random sampling of pieces available for each date in the series. The higher grades will tend to be over represented because the collector will seek out for purchase the best pieces that are available, or at least the best that he can afford to buy. A study of the survey forms indicates that most members attempting to complete a set of Seated quarters will buy pieces in the range from VF to AU when these coins are available. A relatively small number of pieces in the higher circulated grades will indicate that coins in these grades are not often available to the collector of this series.

The information contained in Table 1 cannot be fully appreciated without a summary of the grade distribution for each date in the series. Two methods of summary are provided. The Average Sheldon Numerical Grade is obtained by picking a Sheldon number to represent the middle of each circulated grade given in Table 1, multiplying this number by the frequency of its grade, adding over all grades and then dividing by the total number of circulated pieces reported for the date. Proof and Mint State specimens were not included in the calculation of the Average Grade because this measure is intended to compare distributions in circulated condition. This Average Sheldon Numerical Grade has been calculated for each date in the series. This score is useful in comparing the grade distribution across dates but it has its limitations in representing the center of the grade distribution for each date. This problem is created because the Sheldon scale is not linear across the grade range, with a wider range of points representing the higher grades. For this reason the Median Grade is calculated for each date. The Median Grade is that grade such that at least half of the reported pieces are at that grade or higher while at least half of the reported pieces are at that grade or lower. This measure gives the middle grade of the pieces reported for each date.

Table 1

Date	Total	AG-G 2-7	VG-F 8-19	VF 20-39	XF 40-49	AU 50-59	MS 60-63+	PRF 60+
1838	47	9	11	11	15	1	-	-
1839	44	4	11	16	10	3	-	-
1840	27	1	10	9	5	2	-	-
1840-O	75	5	21	22	21	6	-	-
1841	27	10	3	6	5	3	-	-
1841-O	43	6	16	8	7	6	-	-
1842	16	2	3	4	5	2	-	-
1842-O SD	13	2	3	5	2	1	-	-
1842-O LD	40	5	13	12	7	3	-	-
1843	49	11	8	9	13	6	2	-
1843-O	49	6	13	13	14	3	-	-
1844	40	3	8	12	10	7	-	-
1844-O	41	3	9	13	10	6	-	-
1845	58	2	13	16	15	11	1	-
1846	37	4	2	11	17	3	-	-
1847	56	6	13	15	14	7	1	-
1847-O	29	1	12	11	5	-	-	-
1848	34	4	9	6	11	3	1	-
1849	35	2	7	12	11	3	-	-
1849-O	19	4	8	3	3	1	-	-
1850	33	3	8	6	12	4	-	-
1850-O	30	2	8	11	7	2	-	-
1851	18	1	2	3	10	1	1	-
1851-O	17	1	9	4	3	-	-	-
1852	21	1	6	8	3	3	-	-
1852-O	17	-	8	6	2	1	-	-
1853 NA	12	-	5	2	3	-	2	-
1853 WA	167	36	34	38	33	22	2	2
1853-O	68	14	19	14	17	3	1	-
1854	103	12	25	28	28	7	3	-
1854-O	54	6	20	14	10	4	-	-
1855	55	1	7	26	18	3	-	-
1855-O	22	4	7	7	4	-	-	-
1855-S	38	4	18	6	8	2	-	-
1856	73	4	20	21	24	4	-	-
1856-O	40	3	11	12	11	3	-	-
1856-S	26	5	8	8	1	3	1	-
1857	71	2	16	23	18	11	1	-
1857-O	40	6	12	12	7	2	1	-

Date	Total	AG-G 2-7	VG-F 8-19	VF 20-39	XF 40-49	AU 50-59	MS 60-63+	PRF 60+
1857-S	28	3	9	5	6	4	1	-
1858	68	3	14	23	24	4	-	-
1858-O	43	3	8	14	15	3	-	-
1858-S	30	7	10	7	6	-	-	-
1859	57	-	10	22	19	5	-	1
1859-O	32	2	7	10	10	3	-	-
1859-S	23	3	8	8	3	1	-	-
1860	42	4	7	9	16	4	2	-
1860-O	44	3	9	17	10	4	1	-
1860-S	12	-	6	2	3	1	-	-
1861	81	9	11	20	29	8	4	-
1861-S	21	3	4	6	7	1	-	-
1862	53	3	14	11	16	7	-	2
1862-S	28	4	12	4	7	1	-	-
1863	26	3	7	11	4	1	-	-
1864	30	2	9	5	8	4	1	1
1864-S	20	4	8	5	2	1	-	-
1865	38	5	9	6	9	7	1	1
1865-S	23	1	8	8	6	-	-	-
1866	18	2	3	5	6	1	1	-
1866-S	17	1	4	7	5	-	-	-
1867	27	2	6	10	3	1	2	3
1867-S	18	2	5	9	1	1	-	-
1868	18	2	3	5	5	2	-	1
1868-S	25	5	7	8	4	-	1	-
1869	17	-	2	6	5	2	-	2
1869-S	22	4	6	3	8	1	-	-
1870	34	3	11	8	10	2	-	-
1870-CC	12	2	6	2	1	1	-	-
1871	27	3	4	6	11	3	-	-
1871-S	15	-	6	4	3	2	-	-
1871-CC	15	4	4	3	4	-	-	-
1872	57	1	17	20	11	7	1	-
1872-S	13	1	4	3	4	-	1	-
1872-CC	17	2	8	5	1	1	-	-
1873 NA	33	5	4	12	9	1	1	1
1873-CC NA	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
1873 WA	44	5	11	10	13	2	2	1
1873-S	27	1	11	6	6	3	-	-
1873-CC WA	9	3	5	1	-	-	-	-

Date	Total	AG-G 2-7	VG-F 8-19	VF 20-39	XF 40-49	AU 50-59	MS 60-63+	PRF 60+
1874	28	6	8	8	4	1	1	-
1874-S	31	5	8	13	3	2	-	-
1875	62	8	12	13	21	5	1	2
1875-S	46	-	16	18	6	6	-	-
1875-CC	35	3	12	6	6	3	5	-
1876	80	13	18	26	16	7	-	-
1876-S	61	5	11	22	10	10	3	-
1876-CC	76	6	22	20	16	6	6	-
1877	55	2	16	20	10	6	-	1
1877-S	60	6	17	18	6	10	3	-
1877-CC	70	13	19	15	15	4	4	-
1878	45	5	13	9	11	5	1	1
1878-S	14	1	2	3	4	3	1	-
1878-CC	53	6	17	13	10	5	2	-
1879	41	3	11	10	12	3	-	2
1880	34	1	4	5	14	4	3	3
1881	23	3	10	3	5	-	2	-
1882	25	2	5	7	7	-	4	-
1883	20	1	3	6	5	1	2	2
1884	23	2	5	8	5	3	-	-
1885	20	-	3	2	9	1	2	3
1886	16	-	4	5	4	3	-	-
1887	16	-	4	6	3	1	1	1
1888	18	1	3	3	6	3	-	2
1888-S	41	6	9	8	6	12	-	-
1889	25	-	7	9	7	2	-	-
1890	30	-	6	10	8	6	-	-
1891	60	5	17	11	15	7	2	3
1891-O	26	4	13	4	4	1	-	-
1891-S	45	6	16	6	12	4	1	-

Philadelphia Mint Issues

Table 2 presents the Philadelphia mint issues in rank order by rarity together with a summary of the grade distributions for each date. This table shows that the middle grade for most dates in the Philadelphia series is in the VF range. The rarest date of the Philadelphia issues would be the 1853/53 No Arrows quarter. This elusive date is very difficult to obtain in any grade and has virtually vanished from the market in recent years. The top fifteen dates in rarity in the Philadelphia series include the 1851 and 1852 dates. My experience with these two issues indicate that they are both very scarce, but they are not rare. Most of the other dates in the top fifteen in

rarity are the low mintage issues of the 1880s. When available, these dates can usually be obtained in the higher circulated grades resulting in relatively high average numerical grades. The exception seems to be the 1881 date which has the lowest average numerical grade of the Philadelphia dates. This date has the fewest number of pieces reported in the VF to AU range for any of the Philadelphia issues of the 1880s.

One issue that did not surprise me by its relative rarity and its low Median Grade was the 1874 With Arrows date. I have found this date to be very elusive at times, yet it is very modestly priced. I would have to say that the 1874 quarter is one of the most underrated of the Philadelphia dates in the series.

Table 2

Philadelphia Mint Issues

Rank	Date	Total Number of Pieces	Median Grade	Average Sheldon Numerical Grade
1.	1853 NA	12	low VF	26.00
2.	1842	16	high VF	31.25
3.	1886	16	high VF	33.93
4.	1887	16	medium VF	29.92
5.	1869	17	high VF	35.63
6.	1851	18	low XF	36.44
7.	1866	18	high VF	30.50
8.	1868	18	medium VF	31.08
9.	1888	18	low XF	35.28
10.	1883	20	medium VF	31.18
11.	1885	20	medium XF	36.96
12.	1852	21	medium VF	29.45
13.	1881	23	high Fine	21.88
14.	1884	23	medium VF	30.36
15.	1882	25	medium VF	28.30
16.	1889	25	medium VF	31.22
17.	1863	26	low VF	25.57
18.	1840	27	low VF	27.27
19.	1841	27	low VF	24.02
20.	1867	27	medium VF	26.04
21.	1871	27	low XF	33.24
22.	1874	28	high Fine	22.35
23.	1864	30	high VF	30.42
24.	1890	30	high VF	35.30
25.	1850	33	high VF	31.83

Rank	Date	Total Number of Pieces	Median Grade	Average Sheldon Numerical Grade
26.	1873 NA	33	medium VF	28.56
27.	1848	34	medium VF	29.38
28.	1870	34	medium VF	28.00
29.	1880	34	medium XF	37.39
30.	1849	35	high VF	31.72
31.	1846	37	low XF	34.85
32.	1865	38	high VF	30.63
33.	1844	40	high VF	32.55
34.	1879	41	medium VF	29.60
35.	1860	42	low XF	32.70
36.	1839	44	medium VF	28.32
37.	1873 WA	44	medium VF	28.13
38.	1878	45	medium VF	28.48
39.	1838	47	low VF	26.28
40.	1843	49	medium VF	28.26
41.	1862	53	high VF	31.77
42.	1855	55	high VF	33.38
43.	1877	55	medium VF	29.38
44.	1847	56	medium VF	29.46
45.	1859	57	high VF	33.96
46.	1872	57	medium VF	30.26
47.	1845	58	high VF	33.16
48.	1891	60	medium VF	29.55
49.	1875	62	high VF	30.31
50.	1858	68	high VF	31.86
51.	1857	71	high VF	32.44
52.	1856	73	medium VF	30.05
53.	1876	80	low VF	27.02
54.	1861	81	high VF	32.53
55.	1854	103	medium VF	27.63
56.	1853 WA	167	low VF	27.05

New Orleans Mint Issues

Table 3 presents the New Orleans dates in rank order by rarity and also presents the grade statistics for these issues. For the most part, the average grades for the New Orleans issues are lower than those of the Philadelphia issues, indicating that these coins were widely used in circulation. The top six coins on this list are the key New Orleans dates for the series. The 1891-O quarter has the lowest average grade for the New Orleans issues, supporting its claim as a rare date in the higher circulated grades. The 1849-O date has the second lowest reported average grade. This issue has long been recognized as a rare date in the Seated quarter series that is difficult to locate in the higher grades.

Table 3

New Orleans Mint Issues

Rank	Date	Total Number of Pieces	Median Grade	Average Sheldon Numerical Grade
1.	1842-O SD	13	low VF	26.19
2.	1851-O	17	medium Fine	22.21
3.	1852-O	17	low VF	25.21
4.	1849-O	19	medium Fine	21.18
5.	1855-O	22	high Fine	22.59
6.	1891-O	26	low Fine	20.92
7.	1847-O	29	low VF	24.60
8.	1850-O	30	medium VF	28.73
9.	1859-O	32	medium VF	31.46
10.	1842-O LD	40	low VF	25.67
11.	1856-O	40	medium VF	29.23
12.	1857-O	40	low VF	24.71
13.	1844-O	41	medium VF	31.47
14.	1841-O	43	low VF	25.96
15.	1858-O	43	high VF	31.75
16.	1860-O	44	medium VF	30.22
17.	1843-O	49	low VF	28.01
18.	1854-O	54	low VF	25.43
19.	1853-O	68	low VF	24.30
20.	1840-O	75	medium VF	29.55

San Francisco Mint Issues

The rarity and grade statistics are provided for the San Francisco mint issues in Table 4. Average grade values for the San Francisco issues are generally lower than for the Philadelphia issues, again indicating that these coins circulated widely in the western states during the 19th century. The 1860-S date tops the rarity list of San Francisco mint issues and is very difficult to obtain in higher grades. The 1872-S seems to be on everyone's want list and is another date that is very difficult to find. The 1878-S date is scarce but more often available in higher circulated grades. The 1864-S quarter has the lowest average grade of any of the San Francisco mint issues. This issue has long been recognized as a rare date in the series that is very difficult to locate in higher circulated grades.

Table 4

San Francisco Mint Issues

Rank	Date	Total Number of Pieces	Median Grade	Average Sheldon Numerical Grade
1.	1860-S	12	high Fine	27.33
2.	1872-S	13	low VF	27.08
3.	1878-S	14	low XF	35.50
4.	1871-S	15	low VF	29.43
5.	1866-S	17	medium VF	28.67
6.	1867-S	18	low VF	24.50
7.	1864-S	20	medium Fine	20.85
8.	1861-S	21	medium VF	29.07
9.	1869-S	22	low VF	27.18
10.	1859-S	23	low VF	23.71
11.	1865-S	23	medium VF	26.76
12.	1868-S	25	low VF	22.12
13.	1856-S	26	high Fine	22.98
14.	1873-S	27	low VF	28.16
15.	1857-S	28	low VF	28.42
16.	1862-S	28	high Fine	23.71
17.	1858-S	30	medium Fine	21.33
18.	1874-S	31	low VF	24.40
19.	1855-S	38	high Fine	23.76
20.	1888-S	41	high VF	31.84
21.	1891-S	45	low VF	26.64
22.	1875-S	46	medium VF	29.15
23.	1877-S	60	medium VF	28.06
24.	1876-S	61	high VF	31.20

Carson City Mint Issues

The rarity ranking and grade statistics for the Carson City issues are given in Table 5. The rarest Carson City date is certainly the 1873-CC No Arrows quarter. But this date is so rare that it is unobtainable by most collectors of the series. Only two examples of this date were reported, one an uncirculated specimen and the other an unverified AG specimen. For this reason this date was not included in the rarity scale and no grade statistics were calculated. The rarest obtainable Carson City date would be the 1873-CC With Arrows quarter with a total of nine specimens reported. This issue has the lowest average grade of any date in the quarter series and is very difficult to obtain in higher grades. All four of the early Carson City dates are very rare with low average grades indicating extensive circulation in the early west.

Table 5

Carson City Mint Issues

Rank	Date	Total Number of Pieces	Median Grade	Average Sheldon Numerical Grade
-	1873-CC NA	2	-	-
1.	1873-CC WA	9	low VG	12.27
2.	1870-CC	12	low Fine	20.66
3.	1871-CC	15	medium Fine	22.56
4.	1872-CC	17	medium Fine	21.38
5.	1875-CC	35	low VF	26.10
6.	1878-CC	53	low VF	26.73
7.	1877-CC	70	low VF	24.89
8.	1876-CC	76	medium VF	27.90

Finally, I would once again like to thank all of those members who participated in the survey. If you have any comments on the survey results or observations on the Seated quarter series, I would be happy to hear from you. I can be contacted as follows: Larry Briggs, P.O. Box 187, Lima, Ohio 45802.

Liberty Seated Half Dollars

1847	AU+,strong strike, normal date,scarce in high grade	$150
1847-O	Ch.XF+, flat stars on right, soft head, strong reverse	90
1855/854	Ch.VF, light strike	125
1869	Ch.XF+, strong strike, light perimeter toning	130
1871-CC	VG, even wear, scarce	140
1891	XF, mottled surface, some minor marks	125

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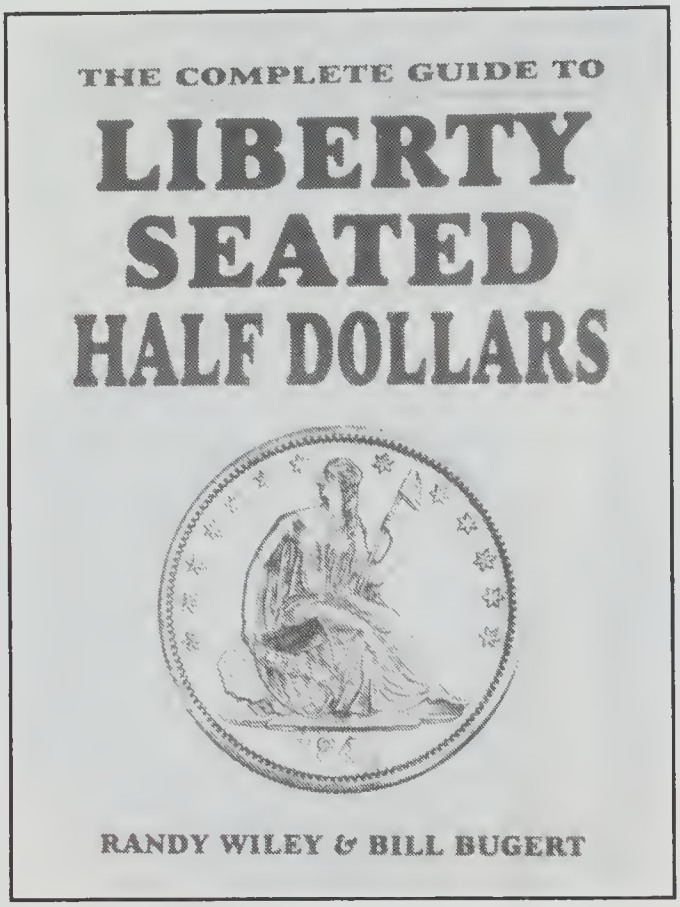

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HALF DIMES

1839-O	Shattered Rev, AU-58	$220
1840	ND, AU+, V-2, obv. die crack	165
1853-O	XF, die crack through 3	55
1854	1854/1854, XF-45+, V-3	75
1856	AU, good luster	90
1856	XF/VF+, original	25
1858	Over Inverted Date, G	20
1862	XF-45+, choice, lustrous	50

DIMES

1838-O	F, A-1, GR-101, choice	$90
1838	Small Stars, F, original	48
1838	Partial Drapery, XF+,choice	185
1839	AU+, A-3, sharp strike	195
1840-O	Small o, VF-30+, whizzed	40
1841-O	Medium O, XF, original	90
1842-O	Medium O, VF-30, A-1	45
1843	XF, sharp, original	35
1843	1843/1843, XF, choice	70
1845	5/5/5, VF+, choice	45
1845	1845/1845, VF, original	20
1845-O	VF-30/35, original	175
1847	VF-35, A-2, GR-103, choice	105
1848	XF+, A-1, GR-101, choice	90
1848	VF-35, A-1, GR-101	65
1848	Nearly VF, A-2, GR-102	32
1849	AU-55, reverse die cracks	200
1849	VF, A-1, Thin Date	20
1849	9/8, G+, A-3, GR-101, scarce	25
1850	XF, A-1, tiny obv. scratch	28
1850	VF+, original	22
1850-O	Medium O, XF+, A-3	135
1851-O	Large O, VF+/F+	50
1853-O	VF-30, scarce, original	50
1854	AU-58+, A-1	250
1854	XF-40+, heavy date	35
1855	XF, nice light gray	50
1855	VF	14
1856	Doubled Die Obv, XF, GR-101	60
1856-O	Large O, XF, medium gray	70
1856-O	F, date recut up	17
1857	A-1, XF-45+, choice	45
1857-O	XF+, Medium O, scarce	150
1857-O	Large O, VF-35, A-3	35
1858	XF, reverse die cracks	32
1858-O	G, not too bad	10
1859	VF-30+, no 9 in drapery	50

DIMES

1859	Blundered Date, XF-45	$75
1859-O	Large O, XF+, A-1	80
1859-O	Large O, VF-30, A-1	40
1859-O	Medium O, F-15, nice	35
1861	Type I obverse, AU	75
1861	Type II obv, XF-45, A-3	50
1861-S	Nearly F, choice	100
1865-S	Nearly VF, GR-102	150
1868	VF+, choice	38
1868-S	VF-35	90
1869-S	VF, clear S	40
1870-S	F/G, scarce but rough	75
1872	XF-45, 2 in base, GR-101	110
1873	Doubled Die Obverse,VF	1100
1873	WA, VF/F, nice but dark	25
1875	18/18, VF-30+, GR-101	30
1875-S	Micro s, VF-35	50
1876-CC	Type II rev, F/G, nice	75
1876-CC	VF-35/30, extra 6 in drapery	55
1876-CC	Doubled Die Obv, VF, Rev B	90
1876-CC	Doubled Die Rev, G+, GR-102	10
1877	F, 1 in base, GR-103, rare	75
1877	MS-63, very choice	250
1882	MS-63+, broken top 2	285
1886	XF-45, nice original	28
1888	AU-55+, A-2, luster	85
1889	AU, nice toning	50
1890	Extra digits in gown, G, GR-102	50
1890	Digit in gown, VF-30+, nice	90
1890-S	Small s, VG+, mintmark left	30
1891	Blundered Date, XF/VF, rare	45
1891	VF+, choice	12
1891	VF	10
1891-O	XF, light toning	25
1891-S	Large S/Small s, F++/VG	45
1891-S	G/AG	4

QUARTERS

1840-O	ND, VF-, original	$50
1853	1853/1854, F, original	80
1857-O	F+, original	25

HALF DOLLARS

1842	1842/1842, G+, WB-106, nice	$20
1858-O	AU, partial drapery	185
1877	1/1, unlisted, XF+, lustrous	140
1877-S	Micro s, VF-35, WB-101	70

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Additional Information Suggests That the 1870-CC Seated Dollar Presentation Pieces Were Struck Early in February 1870

by

Weimar White

Three 1870-CC Liberty Seated dollars have been regarded as probable presentation pieces after study by several numismatists[1]. Their prooflike, mark free surfaces and needle sharp strikes suggest an early die state for these coins. All three of these fantastic coins, the French, the Fairfield and the White specimens were struck from the same Obverse 1, Reverse 4 die pair[2].

It is known that new polished dies can impart a prooflike surface onto coins for roughly the first 2500 strikes[3]. However, the first 500 or so examples would be expected to have significantly deeper reflective surfaces than those made toward the end of a 2500 piece run. The deterioration of prooflike qualities is a grudual event, as the dies start to wear from friction and striking pressure. As the dies lose their polished surfaces, the coins may tend to become more frosty or textured in appearance and some other types of die wear are usually in evidence.

We know from Randy Wiley's article on the production of silver coins at the Carson City mint[4], that 1870-CC dollars were struck in February of 1870 as follows:

Date	Quantity
February 10th	2303
February 24th	1444
Total	3747

On February 24, 1870, Abraham Curry, the Superintendent of the Carson City Mint, perhaps realizing that his original dies would need replacing, requested additional silver dollar dies from the Philadelphia Mint. On March 23rd, Curry acknowledged the receipt of two sets of silver dollar dies[4].

If the mintage figures for dollars produced on February 10th and 24th are totaled, we see that 3747 pieces were coined. In his recent survey of the five reverse varieties of the 1870-CC dollar[5], John Kroon has determined that Reverse 4 was used to strike about 35% of the 1870-CC Liberty Seated dollars seen today in all grades. The use of these original dies in the month of February suggests that perhaps Reverse 4 may have been used for both February production runs and that this reverse accounts for 32% of the original 1870-CC dollar population. This figure is determined by the calculation

$$3747 \times 100 / 11758 = 32\%$$

This figure is very close to John Kroon's survey findings. Other 1870-CC dollars were produced throughout March of 1870 but the writer does not believe that they were struck from Reverse 4. Otherwise, more of this variety would be seen today in relation to the other four reverses. It is probable that Curry had two head and two tail dies on hand when the production of silver dollars began on February 10, 1870. However, it seems very logical to this writer to believe that the presentation specimens were struck early in February from the Obverse 1, Reverse 4 die pair to commemorate the manufacture of money at the new mint and that these examples were among the first several hundred struck on February 10th. A small number of these coins were most likely given out or sold as presentation specimens from the minting that occurred during this first production run at the Carson City mint. Later in February, this writer believes that Obverse 2 was used with Reverse 4 , but by this time, the novelty had diminished and these coins probably ended up in canvas bags marked for commerce.

We are very fortunate to have these presentation specimens of the 1870-CC dollar to mark the beginning of an exciting history at the Carson City mint.

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1. White, W.W. The Three Finest Known 1870-CC Dollars, The Gobrecht Journal, Issue #56, page 25, March 1993.
2. Kroon, J.T. The Two Obverse Dies for the 1870-CC Dollar, The Gobrecht Journal, Collective Volume Number Two, 1986, page 360.
3. The Fascination of Collecting 19th Century Prooflike Coins, The Cambridge Sale by Kingswood Galleries, a Division of Bowers & Merena Galleries Inc, October 16, 1990.
4. Wiley, R.E. Die Shipments and Coinage Delivery Dates for the Carson City Branch Mint in the Year 1870, The Gobrecht Journal, Collective Volume Number Three, 1991, page 377.
5. Kroon, J.T. Some Additional Observations on Carson City Seated Dollars, The Gobrecht Journal, Issue #56, page 38, March 1993.

¤

Seated Quarter Collection

QUARTERS

1838	No Drapery, NGC AU-55	$775
1839	No Drapery, NGC XF-45	350
1840-O	No Drapery, NGC AU-55	775
1840	Drapery AU+	750
1840-O	Drapery NGC XF-45	400
1841	NGC AU-58	1050
1841-O	NGC AU-58	575
1842	Large Date, NGC AU-55	1000
1842-O	Large Date, NGC XF-45	275
1842-O	Small Date, XF	3950
1843	NGC AU-58	200
1843-O	NGC AU-53	475
1844	NGC AU-58	220
1844-O	NGC AU-55	750
1845	BU	750
1846	BU	650
1847	NGC AU-50	190
1847-O	BU PL	4000
1848	NGC MS-60	1400
1849	NGC AU-58	275
1849-O	NGC XF-45	4750
1850	NGC AU-55	925
1850-O	UNC	1100
1851	NGC AU-55	900
1851-O	NGC AU-58	3750
1852	NGC AU-58	1100
1852-O	NGC AU-58	4500
1853	No Arrows, PCGS MS-62	3150
1853	Arrows & Rays, XF	150
1853-O	AU	750
1853/4	XF	225
1854	AU	240
1854-O	BU, ex-Norweb	2500

QUARTERS

1855	AU	$285
1855-O	NGC MS-61, ex-Norweb	7750
1855-S	AU	1350
1856	AU	170
1856-O	NGC AU-58	675
1856-S	UNC	2950
1857	XF	90
1857-O	NGC AU-55	700
1857-S	NGC AU-55	3250
1858	NGC AU-58	240
1858-O	NGC AU-55	800
1858-S	XF	700
1859	AU	140
1859-O	AU	260
1859-S	AU	2250
1860	NGC XF-40	70
1860-O	NGC AU-50	280
1860-S	NGC XF-40	4400
1861	AU	170
1861-S	NGC AU-58	4500
1862	NGC AU-50	200
1862-S	NGC AU-55	3250
1863	NGC AU-50	375
1864	NGC AU-55	475
1864-S	NGC XF-40	3250
1865	NGC XF-45	175
1865-S	XF	350
1866	NGC MS-63	2900
1866-S	PCGS AU-55	3200
1867	BU	2500
1867-S	AU	1300
1868	UNC	1600
1868-S	XF+	750

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An 1854 Dime with Recut 54

by

Carson Torpey

Shown below is a picture of an 1854 dime which has the 5 and 4 of the date recut. This coin grades a nice XF. The first date impression can be seen to the left of the 5 and 4 in the final date on the coin.

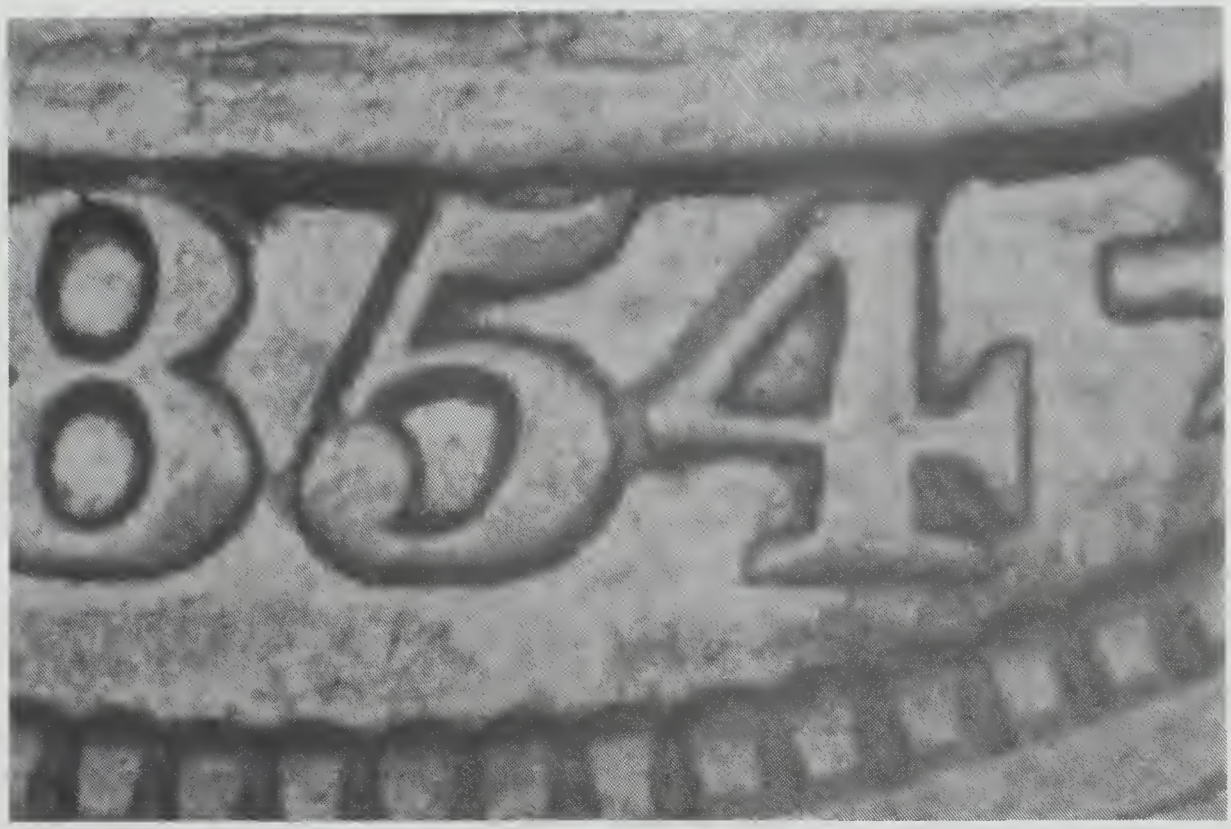
The doubling on the 5 can be seen just to the left of the ball on the tail of this digit. The 4 in the date shows considerably more doubling. The right tail of the 4 shows recutting above and especially below the crossbar. In fact, the first impression of the tail of the 4 extends down nearly to the right base of the digit. It is possible to see doubling on the main shaft of the 4 if the coin is held in just the right light, but this doubling is too light to show up on the picture. The doubling on the diagonal of the 4 extends out into the field so that the 5 and 4 appear to touch. I have not seen a prior reference to this variety.

Brian Greer lists a repunched date variety for the 1854 dime as GR-101 in his book The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Dimes, but no picture is provided. Walter Breen lists a double punched date variety as Breen #3284 in his book The Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins. But again no picture is provided. Both authors refer to a double punched date rather than doubling on the 5 and 4 only. Breen also lists variety #3282 as: 1854 Heavy date, 54 touch, arrows

Date on 1854/54 Dime

touch border, left arrow touches rocky base. This last description matches my coin with the exception of the doubling of the 5 and 4. No picture is provided for this variety in the Breen text. None of these descriptions match my coin, so I must conclude that I have identified a new variety.

I wish to thank Tom Mulvaney for the picture of my 1854 dime.



Date on 1854/54 Dime

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The Estimated Population of Encapsulated Rare Date Liberty Seated Dollars in AU Condition

by

Greg Shishmanian

I am often asked to estimate how scarce original problem free AU rare date Liberty Seated dollars really are. I will begin by consulting the major population reports. My estimate includes the total population of 43 different dates graded and encapsulated AU-50 through AU-58 by PCGS, the Professional Coin Grading Service, NGC, the Numismatic Guaranty Corporation, and ANACS, the American Numismatic Association Certification Service.

I would estimate that 10% of the total population does not exist due to resubmissions. Resubmission occurs when a coin is removed from its holder and resubmitted and encapsulated without the insert being returned from the holder to the grading company. This causes the population to be artifically inflated.

To restrict the data to rare date Liberty Seated dollars, I have chosen to subtract the combined population of the eight most common dates in the series. The remaining 35 dates have a total encapsulated population of only 602 pieces. Knowledgeable numismatists differentiate between the encapsulated population and the original problem free encapsulated population. Therefore I have split these coins into four unique groups and estimated the percentage of coins in each category from my experience with the series. The results are provided in Table 1. Cleaned or retoned coins make up the not original group. Coins in the poor eye appeal group are usually unworthy of high quality coin collections because of one or more undesirable characteristics. Coins in this category may have surface abrasions, subdued luster, a weak strike or unattractive toning. The total number of acceptable and premium quality coins is thus estimated to be 301.

Choice AU Liberty Seated dollars have consistently realized premiums from 10% to 50% over the average AU specimens in the series. I would expect this trend to continue in the years ahead. Most numismatists agree that some Choice AU coins possess characteristics that make them more desirable than many low grade uncirculated coins in the series. Choice AU Liberty Seated dollars often have fewer marks, stronger luster or a sharper strike than many low grade uncirculated coins. When a Choice AU coin has these desirable characteristics, its eye appeal is greater than that of many low grade uncirculated coins despite the trace of wear on its surfaces. The price difference is often substantial, making original Choice AU coins an excellent value in my opinion.

Fortunately for collectors, raw original problem free Liberty Seated dollars are still available. No estimate of the number of raw coins will be attempted in this article. But I believe the term extremely scarce accurately describes original problem free rare date Liberty Seated dollars in Choice AU condition.

◆

Table 1

Estimated Population of Encapsulated Liberty Seated Dollars in AU Condition

	Number of Pieces			
Grading Services	**PCGS**	**NGC**	**ANACS**	**TOTAL**
Total Graded in AU 50,53,55,58	817	298	244	1359
10% Resubmission	82	30	24	136
AU Total minus 10%	735	268	220	1223
Eight Most Common Dates 1842,1843,1846,1847 1849,1859-O,1860-O,1871	354	143	124	621
35 Remaining Dates	381	125	96	602
30% Not Original	114	38	29	181
20% Poor Eye Appeal	76	25	19	120
30% Acceptable	114	38	29	181
20% Premium Quality	76	25	19	120
Acceptable + Premium Quality	190	63	48	301

❖❖❖

Scarce 1865 Seated Dollars

1865 VF, light pitting on obverse & reverse, still a decent coin $220

1865 PCI VF-25, gray, evenly worn coin $325

1865 PCI VF-35, nice original coin $425

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The 1856-O V-8 Half Dime

by

John Zitz

Recently I was able to purchase an 1856-O half dime that matched the Valentine description for the V-4 Obverse and the V-3 Reverse. This die combination represents an unlisted die marriage that has been given the designation of V-8. This new variety is identified by die cracks that will be illustrated with pictures of the discovery coin.

Valentine describes the V-4 Obverse as follows: Medium placed date, 1 and 8 low. Cracks at 1 to milling, toe to milling and forehead to milling. As seen in the picture, the break at the rim extends up through the left side of the base of the 1, up through the center of the 1 and then continues on to the rock base. Not listed by Valentine for this obverse is a light break that extends from the right side base of the 1, and then runs through the base area of the 8, 5 and 6. This break continues on through the 6 and curves upward to the rock base. Another break from the rim extends to Liberty's foot.

Break at Date on 1856-O V-8 Half Dime

A heavy break extends from the rim to Liberty's forehead. Not listed by Valentine is an additional break that extends from the back of Liberty's head to star 8, through the cap and on to the rim. Also unlisted is a break that extends from Liberty's forehead to star 7, and then continues lightly to star 3. A light break can also be seen that extends from star 5 to the rim.

Break at Forehead on 1856-O V-8 Half Dime

Valentine describes the V-3 Reverse as follows: Die crack at UN in UNITED. In the picture this break extends from the rim to the upper corner of the U in UNITED. This crack then traverses lightly through the tops of the UNIT and E. Another break extends from the left branch tip to the upper left corner of the U.

Break at U on 1856-O V-8 Half Dime

Correspondence with Al Blythe was helpful in obtaining verification of this die pairing and in assigning the V-8 designation to this new die marriage. The V-8 designation is a continuation of the Valentine numbering system for this date. I would also like to express my gratitude to both Stephen Crane and John McCloskey for their help in making this attribution possible.

The pictures of the 1856-O V-8 half dime appearing with this article were taken by the author.

BETTER DATES #33

This list contains mostly new purchases that span the grade scale from AG to Uncirculated. I hope that there is something here for you.

HALF DIMES

1839-O	G+, large rim cud on reverse	$15
1841	AU, lustrous	90
1841	AU, cleaned, shattered reverse	50
1842	AU, lustrous, shattered reverse	95
1842-O	F-VF, nice gray, rough surfaces	32
1846	VF, holed & plugged in obv. field	220
1848-O	VF, Medium O, deep gray	45
1849/8	XF, nice deep gray	90
1849-O	VG-F, old cleaning, retoning	37
1851	NGC AU-58, V-3, lustrous	125
1852	VF, nice gray toning	17
1858	XF, original toning	38
1864	VG, choice original gray	325
1865	VF-XF, choice original gray	450
1871	AU, original toning	50

DIMES

1845	VF, Doubled Date, GR-103, cleaned	$55
1846	F-VF, nice album toning, two digs	95
1850-O	VF, Micro o, medium gray toning	85
1852/52	VF, nice gray	25
1852-O	VF, medium gray toning	80
1856-S	Fine, light gray	200
1862-S	VF-XF, cleaned, a few old marks	70
1863	Fine, choice light gray	415
1865-S	F-VF, choice, weak OF AM	45
1867-S	XF, light porosity	55
1872-S	F-VF, choice original gray	70
1873-S	VF-XF, GR-102, nice gray	72
1876-CC	AU, golden gray original	60
1876-S	Choice XF, old cleaning, retoning	24
1882	Choice XF, nice medium gray	19

QUARTERS

1843	ANACS AU-55, lustrous, sharp	$220
1844	VF, nice gray	33
1846	Fine, light gray	23
1846	XF-AU, original gray	85
1848	VF, Tripled Date, unlisted reverse	140
1852	Choice VF, old cleaning	145

QUARTERS

1853-O	XF, Var 1-C, nice color	$200
1854-O	F-VF, Var 3-B, broken 4, dark gray	28
1855-O	F, old cleaning, obverse hairline	70
1859-O	Fine, nice gray	30
1865	VG, old cleaning, nice	60
1867	VG, solder removed from obverse	125
1870	G, old cleaning	40
1872-S	VG, a few scratches & marks	475
1879	VG-F, old cleaning, retoned	155
1880	VG, nice gray, light rev. mark	155
1880	XF-AU, old cleaning, porous areas on rev.	230
1881	F, light gray, hairline on reverse	185
1882	Choice VF, cleaned, some roughness	225
1887	F, bent, a few marks	145

HALF DOLLARS

1839	VF, Drapery, nice light gray	$65
1844	XF, medium gray	68
1846-O	G, Tall Date, a few marks	90
1857-S	G, Large S, nice original gray	60
1858-O	XF, extra 8 in rock	65
1862	Choice VF, old cleaning, retoning	85
1864	VF, deep gray, tiny rev. rim bump	70
1868	G-VG, two letters of LIBERTY	42
1873-CC	FR-AG, Small cc	60
1877-S	NGC MS-64, semi-prooflike	950
1878-CC	G, weak obverse	200
1884	VF, cleaned retoning	350

SEATED DOLLARS

1841	G, gray, full rims	$80
1842	Choice XF, perfect for grade	275
1843	F, cleaned, a few marks	125
1853	F-VF, holed & plugged at 3 o'clock	140
1856	G-VG, holed & plugged at 12 o'clock	175
1862	NGC VG-8, perfect for grade	400
1866	G-VG, short scratch on LIBERTY	125
1867	G/AG, scarce in low grade	105
1870-CC	G, nice gray, hidden hairlines	190

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The Thin Date 1847-O Half Dollar

by

Paul Brill

The 1847-O half dollar offers some interesting die varieties as reported by Beistle and more recently by James Pryor in Issue #24 of the journal. In his 1982 article, Jim presents a close up picture of the date of a mint state 1847-O half dollar that is an example of what I call a Fat Date variety. I also own a coin in an AU-50 grade that shows the same Fat Date style. This piece is an example of what I believe to be a Beistle 4-D variety with obvious recut stars being one of the distinguishing characteristics.

1847-O Fat Date Half Dollar

Recently I purchased an 1847-O half dollar in an AU-55 grade that shows a noticeably different date style from my AU-50 coin and the one pictured by Pryor. I have called this the Thin Date variety and have studied this new coin in detail. My observations on this piece are given below.

1847-O Thin Date Half Dollar

1847-O Thin Date Half Dollar

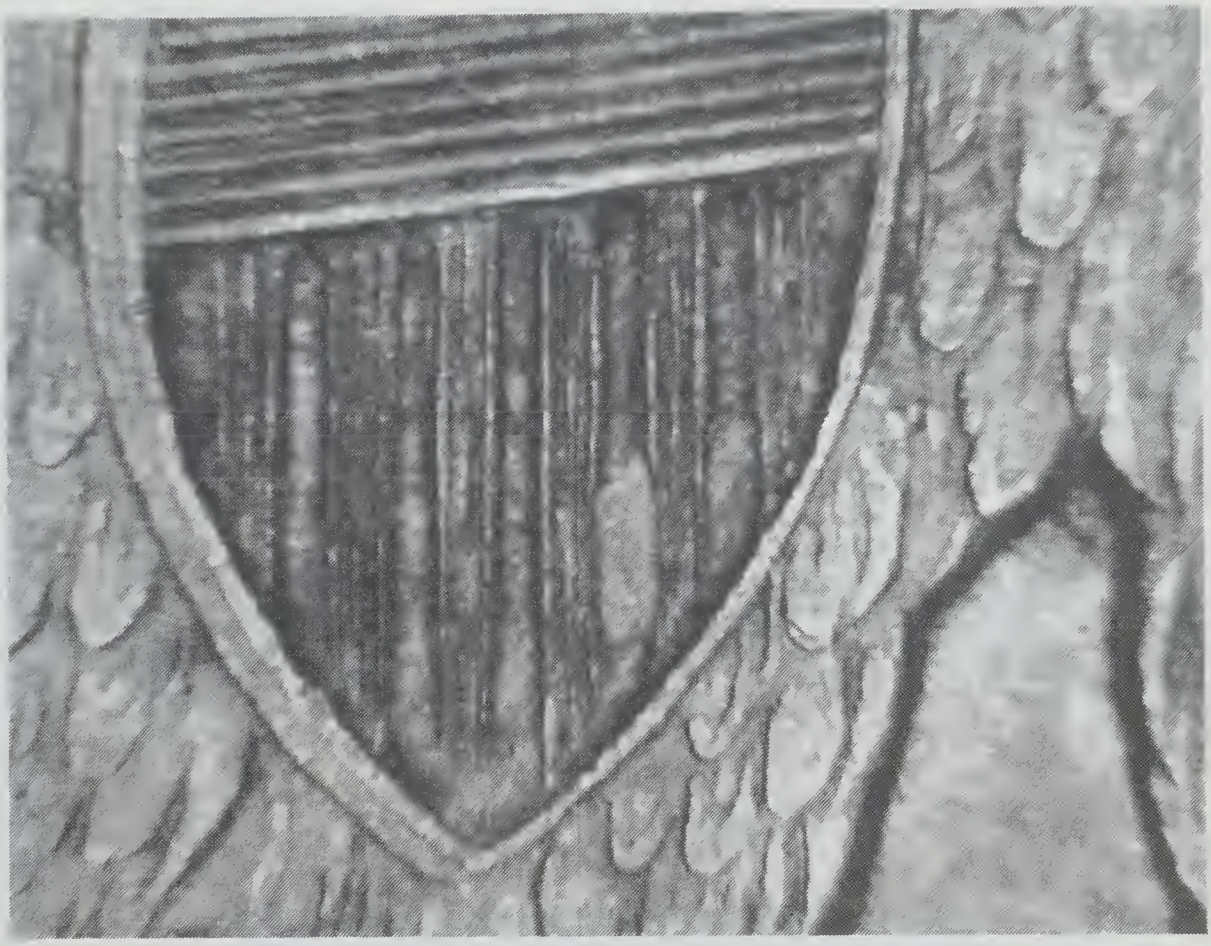
The date displays a wider and generally thinner set of numbers compared to the heavier and bolder numbers on the Fat Date variety. These differences can be seen in all four numbers of the date. The 1 has a thinner base, the 8 has thinner loops with wider openings, the 4 has thinner slanted and horizontal bars and the 7 has a thinner horizontal segment. This variety also has a distinctive die crack that connects the bottom of Liberty's foot to the rock base. The foot is partially supported with the toe enclosed. There is one full drapery line with two partial drapery lines.

Die Crack at Foot on 1847-O Thin Date Half Dollar

The reverse of the Thin Date variety has two field defects within the vertical stripes of the shield. There are raised defects between the 4th, 5th and 6th sets of vertical stripes through the lower part of the shield. There is also a fine die crack that runs through the top of the letters in UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

I believe that the differences in date style are real and not due to coin wear. I would be interested in knowing if other club members have seen examples of the 1847-O Thin Date half dollar with any of the features that I have described in this article.

Finally, Bill Bugert was asked for his opinion on the differences in style between the Fat Date and Thin Date varieties of the 1847-O half dollar. Bill believes that the same four digit logopunch was used to impress the date on all of the obverse dies for this year. He claims that the differences in date style described in this article can be explained by a difference in striking force used to impress the date into the obverse dies. Bill claims that the logopunch was slightly beveled, so that a heavy striking force would create a thick, bold date. A lighter striking force would produce a thinner, shallow date. Bill feels that repeated polishing of the working dies could also produce changes in the thickness of the date digits to a lesser degree.



Field Defects in Shield on 1847-O Thin Date Half Dollar

The pictures of the 1847-O half dollars were taken by Penny Harris.

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Collective Volumes Available for Purchase at ANA Convention

Copies of all three Collective Volumes of the Gobrecht Journal will be available for purchase at the ANA Convention in Detroit. In fact, copies of all three Collective Volumes will be available for examination by interested club members at the Annual Meeting of LSCC on Thursday, July 28th at 9:00 am. If you have not yet purchased copies of these books, I would encourage you to take this opportunity to examine these valuable reference texts. Each volume contains many original research articles that report the results of numismatic studies on Liberty Seated coinage.

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The 1844 Half Dime

by

John W. McCloskey

The 1844 half dime has drawn the attention of many LSCC members because of the existence of a Repunched Date variety for this year. Interestingly enough, LSCC surveys show that this Repunched Date variety might be the most common variety for this date. This leaves at least two other varieties of the 1844 half dime that would appear to be underrated as varieties for this early Seated issue. The purpose of this article is to provide sufficient information on the known varieties of the 1844 half dime so that they can be easily identified. It is hoped that additional studies on this date will provide a better understanding of the relative rarity of the varieties of this issue.

The V-1 variety is most easily identified by its high sloping date that drops sharply downward from left to right. The 1 is positioned up close to the rock base while the remaining digits drop away from the rock. The tip of the shield is over the right edge of the upright of the 1. The skirt pendant is over the center of the crosslet of the first

1844 V-1 Half Dime

4 in the date. The upright of the 1 is centered over the gap between two denticles. Examples of this variety have a very strong strike with a full head and full radials to all stars. High grade specimens clearly show the superior quality of the early Seated coins from the Philadelphia mint.

1844 V-2 Half Dime

The V-2 variety has a centered date that slopes up slightly from left to right. The 1 is centered in the field and the tip of the shield is over the center of the upright of the 1. The final 4 is a little closer to the rock base than the other date digits and the skirt pendant is located over the right edge of the upright of the first 4. The upright of the 1 is centered over a denticle. Examples of this variety are well struck with strong star radials and a full head.

The V-3 variety of this issue is the Repunched Date variety of this year. This variety has been the subject of several articles in the journal over the years and is known in several die states. A picture of an early die state example of this variety is presented for comparison with the other known varieties of this year. This variety has a date which slopes slightly upward from left to right. The remains of an earlier 18 can be seen over the top of the final date digits while the remains of an earlier 184 can be seen below the final date digits. The tip of the shield is located over the left side of the upright of the 1. The skirt pendant is located over the right side of the upright of the first 4 in the date. Examples of this variety are well struck with strong star radials. Traces of the earlier date digits wear off with die use creating a range of die states for this variety.

One important feature of 1844 half dimes is that both 4s in the date have a large crosslet on the right end of the crossbar of these digits. This is an interesting feature because the dates on the dimes and quarters of this year do not have crosslet 4s. The crosslets do appear however on the 4s in the dates on 1844 half dollars and dollars. It is not known why there is a difference in date style among Seated denominations of this year.

1844 V-3 Half Dime with Repunched Date

In his supplement to the 1975 Valentine reprint, Breen indicates the existence of two unlisted varieties for this date. It would be my opinion that at least one of these varieties could be a late die state of the V-3 Repunched Date variety with only parts of the earlier dates still visible. However, other varieties of the 1844 half dime might exist. Can anyone document the existence of a variety of the 1844 half dime in addition to the V-1, V-2 and V-3 varieties described in this article?

Choice examples of all three known varieties of the 1844 half dime have been documented for sale at auction in recent years. Part I of the Norweb Sale by Bowers & Merena Inc. contained a Proof-63 example of the V-1 variety. This coin was described as Lot #337 in this October 1987 sale. The Stuart C. Levine Sale by Bowers & Merena Inc. in April 1986 contained five 1844 half dimes that graded MS-63 or better. Lot #2091 in this sale was an example of the V-2 variety that graded MS-63 while Lots #2093 to #2096 were each examples of the V-3 variety that graded MS-63 or better. It is clear that choice examples of all three varieties are known to the numismatic community.

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The 1861 Doubled Die Obverse Quarter

by

Larry Briggs

During the last few years a number of Seated quarters have been identified with doubled die obverses. These varieties are now being identified because collectors are taking a closer look at the coins in their collections. The latest of these varieties to surface is an 1861 quarter with doubling in the obverse shield.

Shown below is a picture of an 1861 quarter with a Doubled Die Obverse. The doubled die shows most prominently on the vertical stripes in the lower portion of the obverse shield. The doubling is apparent along the left edge of each vertical stripe in the shield.

I discovered this variety in January of 1992. So far I have been able to identify four examples of this variety that range in grade from VG to AU. More examples of this variety are bound to be discovered by collectors who are now studying the coins in this series in more detail. This variety is probably rare but more time is needed to determine the actual rarity of this new variety.

1861 Doubled Die Obverse Quarter

An Interesting 1841 Dime

by

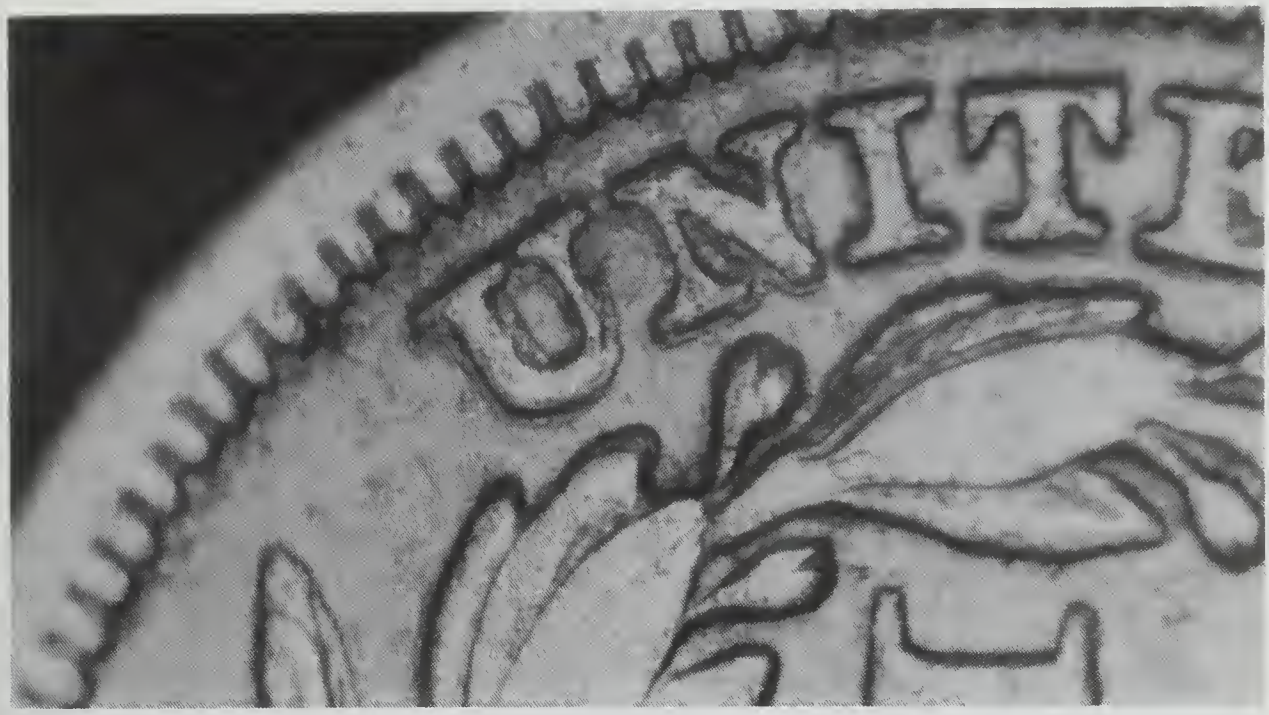
Mark Kosters

Recently while expanding my Seated dime collection to include varieties, I discovered an unusual 1841 dime with some interesting die characteristics. The obverse very clearly shows a repunched date of the form 184/184 that I have identified as an example of the Greer #101 variety. However the picture of my coin shows the position of the date relative to the shield and the skirt pendant, information not seen in the Greer photograph. I purchased my 1841 dime in January 1987 and it grades a pleasing VF-20.

Date on 1841/184 Dime

Upon closer examination of my coin, I have found evidence of doubling in many areas on the reverse. Strong doubling can be seen through the UNIT in UNITED, through the ERICA in AMERICA and along the E in DIME. Doubling also shows along the left side of the wreath from the E in UNITED down to the ribbon below the wreath. At first I thought that I had a doubled die reverse but further study seems to indicate that the doubling was caused by late die state erosion and that the coin was struck from a rusted or corroded reverse die. My coin also has the reverse slightly rotated. These die characteristics have been confirmed by Gerry Fortin who has a similar coin.

The identification of this variety proves once again that you can find interesting coins just by taking a second or third look at the coins already in your collection. I would like to thank Terry Searcy for the identification of the obverse of my coin and Chris Pilliod for taking the photopraphs of my coin.



Reverse Doubling on 1841/184 Dime

A Few Special Coins

DIMES

1837	No Stars PCGS AU-50	$725

QUARTERS

1847-O	F-12	$55
1850-O	AU-58	650
1852-O	PCI VF-25	525
1854-O	F-12	18
1861-S	F-12	150
1862-S	PCGS AU-50	975
1864	PCI EF-45	295
1864-S	VF-20	825
1866-S	VF-30	795
1875-S	NGC AU-55	325

HALF DOLLARS

1841-O	EF-40	$135
1841-O	AU-58	325
1855-S	VG-8	425
1868-S	VF-20	50
1874	ANACS AU-50	400
1878-CC	ANACS VF-20	800
1887	PCI MS-62	1000

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An 1842-O Medium Date Half Dollar with a Rotated Reverse

by

John W. McCloskey

Rotated reverse errors can be found in all of the Liberty Seated series from the half dime to the dollar. But these errors have always created more questions for me than they have provided answers in my search for an explanation of their existence. Rotated reverse errors are rare in all of the Seated series but they are less frequently encountered for the larger denominations. Most rotated reverse errors of the Seated design are half dimes and dimes, with quarters less frequently encountered. These rotated reverse errors are particularly rare in the half dollar and dollar series. I have never been able to satisfactorily determine why fewer rotated reverse coins are encountered for the larger denominations.

Other unanswered questions revolve around the cause of these errors. Some have suggested that the dies were mounted out of alignment and that the coins were struck from this configuration. Is it possible that this could have been done? Was the machinery at the mint constructed in such a way that dies could have been mounted with an arbitrary alignment? I have no factual information that would support this theory. Several varieties are known to have rotated reverse errors with different alignments. This would suggest a loose die that was moving further out of alignment as the coins were being struck. If this is the case, which die was loose and in which direction was the loose die moving?

Presented with this article are pictures of an 1842-O Medium Date half dollar with a rotated reverse. This coin has its reverse rotated 90 degrees counterclockwise and the pictures have been positioned to demonstrate this error. In their new book on the Seated half dollar series, Wiley & Bugert report seeing this date rotated counterclockwise through 90 degrees and 180 degrees. Have all of these error coins been struck from the same die pair? Are there other degrees of rotation known for this date beyond the two already reported? Which degree of rotation was struck first in the production of these coins? The purpose of this article is to present enough information on the die characteristics of the pictured coin so that some of these questions may eventually be answered by numismatic scholars.

The 1842-O half dollar with the rotated reverse has a level Medium Date that is centered in the field between the rock base and the denticles. The tip of the shield is positioned just to the left of the 8 in the date. The upright of the 1 is centered over a denticle. The upright of the 4 is centered over the gap between two denticles. The Medium Date style is characterized by the large crosslet on the right end of the crossbar of the 4. This feature is particularly significant because the Small Date dies of 1840, 1841 and 1842 do not have a crosslet on the 4. There are no visible die cracks on the obverse die.

The Large O mintmark is located in the field, closer to the feather tip and the branch stem. The mintmark is centered over the right side of the F in HALF. The two

1842-O Medium Date Half Dollar

1842-O Medium Date Half Dollar with Reverse Rotated Counterclockwise through 90 Degrees

lowest horizontal lines in the reverse shield extend well out into the feathers to the left of the shield. Most of the vertical lines in the shield extend well below the lower edge of the shield. The first line in the first vertical stripe extends solidly up through the second horizontal line in the shield. A die crack can be seen running from the tip of the middle arrow to the gap between two denticles. There is also a light crack that connects the top of the letters MERI.

Additional observations on the error variety described in this article or other rotated reverse errors are encouraged.

Reverse of 1842-O Medium Date Half Dollar

SUMMER SELL OUT

Many of these coins have minor problems and have been greatly reduced, check it out. Nobody can beat these prices.

HALF DIMES

1838-O	VF-30, a few marks & spots	$199
1840	ND, AU-50, cleaned, light rev. scratch	49
1842-O	VF-30, light reverse marks	75
1843	Ch.XF-45, lightly cleaned	32
1844-O	Small o, rotated rev, VF-25, porous	235
1845	1845/1845, XF-40, light obv. scratch	37
1848-O	Small o, high mintmark, Good+, rare	90
1848-O	Small o, XF-40, light obv. scratches	250
1849-O	VF-20, some porosity	45
1850-O	Small o, F, small ding on head	95
1869	XF-40+, ex-Proof	40

DIMES

1839	Shattered obv, F, obv. scratch	$40
1840-O	Medium O, XF-40+, rough	50
1842-O	Medium O, Ch.VF-XF	50
1843	1843/1843, AU-50, old cleaning	60
1843-O	VF-25, cleaned, tiny marks	130
1845-O	VF-XF, cleaned, small scratch on arm	165
1849-O	Small o, VF-25, some porosity	49
1852-O	VF-20, a few marks	40
1856	Large Date, XF-40+, two tiny marks	29
1856-O	Medium O, XF-40, small dig	45
1856-O	Large O, Date Repunched Up, VF-25	20
1857-O	Medium O, XF-40, original	45
1858-O	VF-XF, dark	50
1859-O	Large O, XF-40, old cleaning	45
1864	VF-30, some porosity	265
1864-S	VF-30, slightly rough	42
1868	Ch.XF-40+, slight rev. dent	29
1869-S	XF-40+, dark, some porosity	29
1869-S	Ch.XF-45, light porosity	45
1877-S	AU-50, lightly cleaned	55
1884-S	XF-40, cleaned, light porosity	49
1885	AU-50, lightly cleaned	40

QUARTERS

1838	XF-40, a few marks, cleaned	$98
1838	AU-50, old cleaning	210
1838	VF-30+, Closed Claws Rev, rare	150
1840-O	ND, mintmark right, XF-, marks	75
1840-O	ND, mintmark right, AU-50	365
1840	Drapery, XF-40, nice toning	135
1840-O	WD, BU-60, original	795

QUARTERS

1840-O	WD, Large O, VG-F, rare	$750
1841	XF-40, light obv. scratch	150
1841-O	Doubled Die Obv. Ch.AU-58	325
1842-O	Large Date, AU-50, cleaned	165
1843-O	Small o, Incomplete eagle, VF-20	35
1843-O	Large O, VG-F, scarce	125
1847-O	VF-25, typical strike	75
1847-O	Ch.VF-XF, well struck	165
1847-O	VF-25, Briggs 1-A Var.	125
1849	AU-50, cleaned	95
1851	XF-40+, cleaned	150
1851-O	F-12, obverse scratch	200
1851-O	VF-25, many rim dents	165
1855	AU-55, lightly cleaned	105
1855-O	XF-40, light obv. scratch	185
1855-S	XF-40+, cleaned	165
1858-O	XF-40, cleaned, rev. scratch	50
1858-O	AU-50, obv. pin scratches	150
1858-S	VF-XF, porous & cleaned	165
1859-O	VF-20	45
1859-S	Ch.VF-30+, lightly cleaned	265
1864	AU-50, lightly cleaned, a few dings	195
1869	VG-10, cleaned	265
1872	Proof AU-55, obv. cleaned	150
1873	Arrows, XF-40+, scratches	20
1873	Arrows, AU-55, two digs	85
1873	Arrows, MS-60, many scuffs	150
1874	AU-55, obverse scratches	85
1874-S	VF-20, porous & cleaned	25
1875-S	Reverse of 1874, VF-25, cleaned	75
1890	VF-20, light obv. scratch	70
1891-O	VF-30, small obv. scratch	225
1891-S	Ch.AU-50, light obv. marks	95

HALF DOLLARS

1845-O	ND, VF-XF, lightly cleaned	$75
1847	Ch.AU-50+, a few light marks	125
1849-O	AU-50+, a little scuffy	125
1855-O	XF-40, some porosity	25
1858-O	AU-50	85
1858-S	Medium S, VF-XF, a few spots	65
1860-S	AU-50, cleaned, a few scratches	75
1868	VF-XF, old cleaning	98

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1838	VF-20, pretty blue & red highlights	24.00
1838	VF-30, Small Stars. Late die state	80.00
1838	AU-58, sharp slider	165.00
1840	XF-40, With Drapery, dark gray	150.00
1840	XF-45, With Drapery. Light gray, sharp	195.00
1841	AU-50, light gray with traces of luster	90.00
1841-O	XF-40, sharp strike. Lightly cleaned	97.50
1847	XF-45, sharp strike. Nice for grade	45.00
1849/8	VF-25, lightly toned. Minor reverse circulation marks	47.50
1850	AU-50, sharp detail. Lightly cleaned	90.00
1851-O	VF-25, old light cleaning	32.50
1852-O	VG-8, small scratch in obverse field	27.50
1853	XF-45, With Arrows. Nice	42.50
1853	AU-50, With Arrows. Heavy die clash	80.00
1853	AU-55, With Arrows. Heavy die clash	115.00
1853-O	VG-8, No Arrows. Dark & light gray	195.00
1856-O	ANACS AU-50. Attractive & lustrous	225.00
1857	XF-45. Nice for this date	45.00
1857-O	VF-30, blue & gold highlights	32.50
1857-O	XF-45, sharp strike	55.00
1858	G-4, Over Inverted Date	22.50
1858	G6/VG8, Over Inverted Date	25.00
1858	PCI XF-40, Over Inverted Date. Red slab(Cleaned)	175.00
1858	XF-45, light toning	45.00
1858-O	XF-40, sharp for date	50.00
1858-O	XF-45, die break rim to head. Light gray	75.00
1859	F-15, nice for grade	20.00
1859-O	F-15, nice original	20.00
1860-O	XF-40, sharp original. Very minor edge mark	40.00
1861	XF-40, medium gray original	27.50
1862	AU-50, attractive. Die clash	60.00
1863	G-4, a decent example	115.00
1865	G-4, nice original with full rim	240.00
1866-S	XF-45, lightly toned original. Sharp	125.00
1872	AU-55, lovely dark gray & blue toning	75.00
1872-S	XF-40, mintmark below bow. A few minor marks	25.00
1873-S	XF-40, nice for grade	35.00

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An Unattributed 1854-O Dime That Turned Out to be a Seated Rarity

by

Donald Helfer

Recently I spent a few days taking an inventory of my collection and dug deep into one of my safe deposit boxes where some of my Seated coins are kept. It was here that I found an unattributed 1854-O dime that has turned out to be a Seated rarity. I have continued to purchase unusual and interesting Seated material, and this coin represents one occasion where I made a fortunate purchase.

While on a business trip in the late 1970s I walked into a coin shop in Manchester, Connecticut in the hope of adding a few pieces to my collection. I was unimpressed by the stock except for one dime that was marked: 1854-O arrows $10. I told the dealer that the obverse was damaged but that I would be willing to pay $7 for the coin. He looked at it, took my seven dollars and handed me the coin. I went home and checked my Seated dime reference book, but found that Kam Ahwash had said nothing about this interesting variety.

The first information that I obtained on this variety appeared in 1984 in an article by Al Blythe in Issue #29 of the journal. In this article Al described an 1854-O dime with a shattered obverse, a coin almost identical to the piece that I had purchased several years before as an unattributed coin with a damaged obverse. A second example of this variety in an average circulated grade was reported by Mark Verbeck in 1986 in Issue #35 of the journal. And finally, a third example of this variety was reported by Frank Van Valen in 1991 in Issue #51 of the journal. In his book on the Liberty Seated dime series, Brian Greer calls this variety #101, shattered obverse and states that he believes that it is rare and highly sought. I have to agree with his assessment as I have personally seen only the one example of this variety that I purchased many years ago. I have been pleased to learn that my modest purchase of an unattributed variety has turned into a prized Seated rarity.

HALF DIMES

1837	Large Date, XF-40	$175
1837	Small Date, MS-63	850
1842	MS-60	175
1842-O	VF-25, weak head	195
1843	AU-55, lustrous	125
1846	XF-40, cleaned	795
1849	AU-55	100
1850-O	MS-60, Large O, sharp strike	590
1851-O	AU-50	165
1852-O	AU-50, blue & rose toning	475
1853	No Arrows, MS-60, full strike	560
1854	MS-60	195
1855-O	MS-60	425
1856-O	AU-50	185
1857-O	AU-50	130
1859	MS-60, deeply prooflike	200
1859-O	MS-60, frosty	255
1867-S	AU-50	190
1868	AU-50, iridescent toning	310
1868-S	MS-61	325
1870	MS-63	240
1872	MS-63	230
1873-S	MS-63	245

DIMES

1838	Large Stars, AU-50, GR-102	$140
1839	MS-60, sharp & lustrous	230
1839-O	AU-58, a slider	450
1840	No Drapery, MS-60	225
1840	With Drapery VF-30	125
1841	AU-50	100
1841-O	AU-50	200
1842	MS-60, bagmarked	155
1843-O	VF-25	180
1848	MS-60	725
1855	AU-50, well struck	120
1857-O	AU-50, dark toning	150
1863	XF-40, hint of blue toning	625
1872-CC	XF-40	2450
1875	MS-63	225
1877-S	MS-60, full strike	110
1881	MS-60, full luster	455
1885	MS-60, weak head	100
1886	MS-60	105
1886-S	MS-60, a lovely coin	575
1887	MS-63	225
1888	MS-63	225
1891	MS-60	105

QUARTERS

1840-O	No Drapery, XF-40	$225

QUARTERS

1840-O	With Drapery, AU-50 NGC	$500
1841-O	AU-50	295
1842-O	Small Date, XF-40, rare	2875
1842-O	Large Date, AU-50	595
1843	AU-50	155
1844	AU-55, prooflike	250
1845	AU-50, very strong strike	200
1849	AU-50	300
1851	AU-50	300
1851-O	F-12	325
1852	AU-50	300
1852-O	F-12	300
1854	AU-58 PCGS	310
1858-O	XF-40	90
1859-S	VF-20	300
1860	AU-55, Type 2 Reverse	150
1860-S	F-12, obverse scratch	250
1862	AU-50	110
1871	AU-50	290
1871-S	VF-20	490
1876-S	AU-50	125

HALF DOLLARS

1841-O	AU-50	$240
1842	Medium Date, AU-50	150
1848-O	Leaning 8, AU-50	270
1852-O	XF-40	390
1855/4	XF-40, problem free	300
1857-S	Medium S, AU-50	615
1859	MS-60, darkly toned	400
1860-O	AU-50	160
1860-S	Medium S, AU-50	210
1860-S	Large S, AU-50	210
1861-O	AU-50	190
1866-S	No Motto, VF-20	295
1872-S	AU-50, original toning	350

SEATED DOLLARS

1840	AU-50, nice rims	$625
1841	VF-25	175
1842	XF-40	220
1843	XF-40	225
1844	AU-50, obverse dig	600
1845	AU-50	1050
1846-O	XF-40	275
1860-O	AU-50	375
1870	XF-40	250
1870-CC	AU-55, cleaned	2250
1871-CC	XF-45, lightly cleaned	5990
1872	F-15	120
1872-S	XF-40, light cleaning	950

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Another Reverse Cud on an 1858-O Half Dime

by

John W. McCloskey

In Issue #53 of the journal, Al Blythe described a new variety of the 1858-O half dime with a large cud through the lower part of the reverse. This variety was later described and pictured in his new book on the half dime series and identified as the V-6 variety. Aware of this new variety, I began looking at the reverse of 1858-O half dimes and was thrilled when I located one with a large reverse cud. I took this coin home and compared it with the picture in Issue #53 of the journal. To my amazement, the cud didn't match. I had purchased a coin with a similar but distinctly different reverse cud. A picture of my coin is presented below.

In an attempt to identify the variety of my newly acquired half dime, I studied the Valentine descriptions for the varieties of this date. The description of the reverse for the V-3 variety reads as follows: Medium lettering, break at C of AMERICA, extending to leaf, stem and ribbon. O low and to the left. This description seems to match perfectly with the features that I have observed on the reverse of my coin. But my coin would appear to be a late die state example of this variety where the die break has developed into a retained cud in the area broken off from the reverse die.

The picture of my 1858-O V-3 Half Dime was taken by Chris Pilliod.

Retained Cud on 1858-O V-3 Half Dime

HALF DIMES

1846	Very nice full LIBERTY Fine	$475
1863	Nice XF, slightly weak LIBERTY	315
1864	Very nice Frosty Choice BU	1675

DIMES

1843	Choice BU+	$275
1846	Choice AU/BU. Cleaned and retoning	1250
1851-O	Semi PL, toned AU	375
1858-S	Very Choice AU++, very nice and rare	2500
1863	Choice BU	1250
1863-S	Very Choice AU++	850
1864	Superb Gem BU	5750
1865-S	Very Choice AU+, reverse rim cud, GR-102	1000
1867	Choice BU	1450
1867-S	Very Choice AU/BU	1375
1870-S	Nice XF	575
1871-CC	Sharp VF, very slight porosity	2500
1874-CC	Sharp XF with several light marks, looks nice	6500
1880	Very nice Choice BU	575
1885-S	Nice VF	1350
1886-S	Choice BU	590

QUARTERS

1842-O	Small Date, Choice VF	$1650
1849-O	Nice XF++, old cleaning	2750
1852-O	Nice XF	1000
1860-S	Nice Fine	490
1866	Choice XF/AU, original	800
1870-CC	Choice VF	8000
1870-CC	Very nice XF/AU-, old dipping	16,500

HALF DOLLARS

1861-O	Confederate, obverse die crack, WB-102, nice XF	$375
1874-CC	Nice Good	240
1878-CC	Choice G/VG	350
1886	Nicely toned Proof	585
1887	PL AU+, very rare	775

SEATED DOLLARS

1850	PL AU-, dipped long ago	$1800
1871-CC	Nice VF/XF, one tiny reverse rim scratch	3900
1872-CC	Nice G/VG	725
1872-CC	Nice VG, field scratch	900
1873-CC	Choice VG-/Fine	4475

TRADE DOLLARS

1875	Nice VF+, old cleaning	$525
1878-CC	Choice XF/AU	1775

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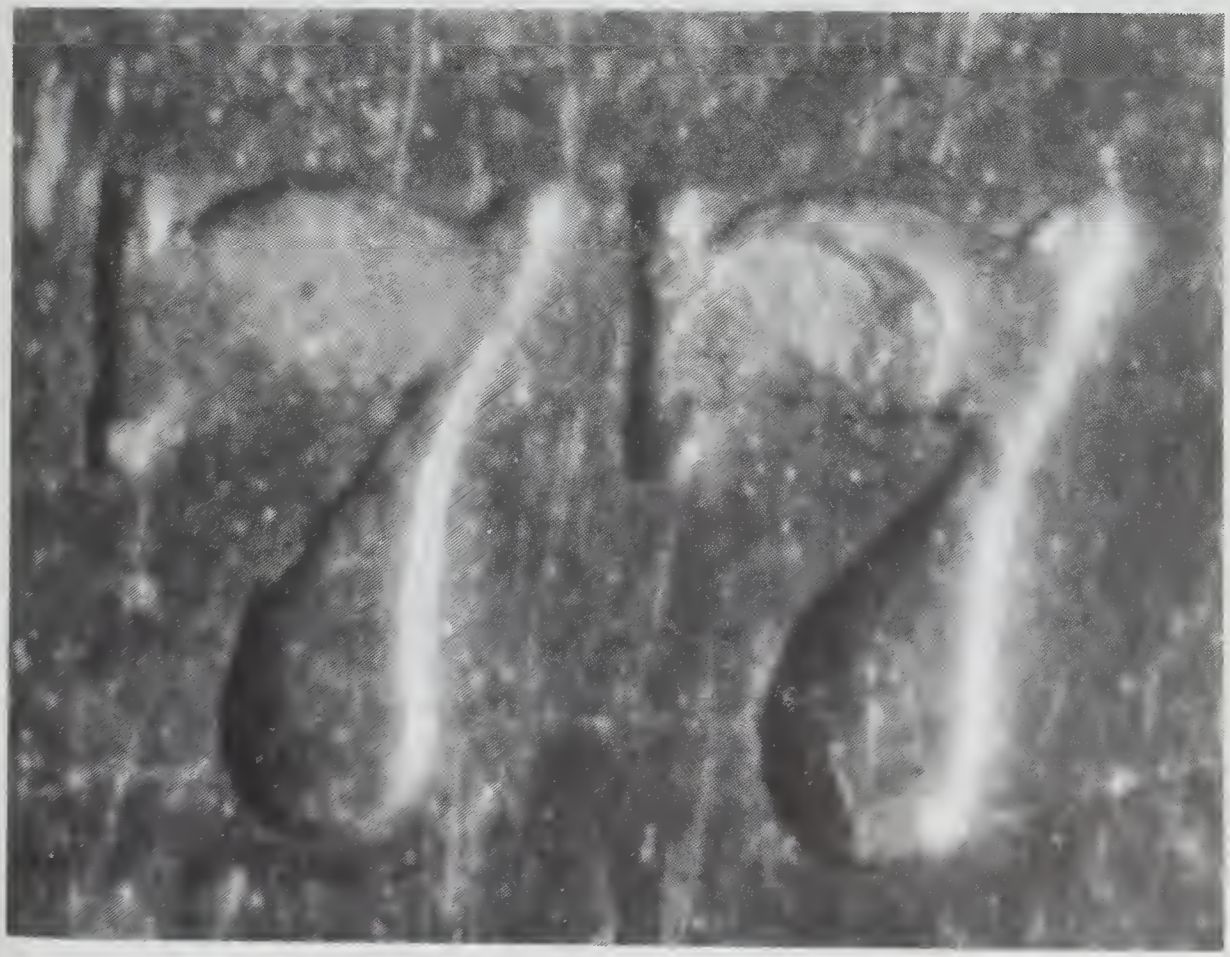
More on the 1877/6 Half Dollar

by

F. Michael Fazzari

I would like to congratulate Randy Wiley and Bill Bugert for the monumental amount of research and new information that has been included in their new book on the Liberty Seated half dollar series.As the owner and discoverer of the 1877/6 half dollar, currently listed in the Cherrypickers Guide by Fivaz and Stanton, I was anxious to read about my discovery in the new half dollar book. Unfortunately, although given special coverage, this variety is listed as a so-called overdate.

I must strongly disagree with the authors' opinion on the 1877/6 half dollar. A high grade example of this variety clearly shows the upper loop and knob of a 6 on the relief surface of the final 7. Although the authors state that it is not possible for this to occur without other traces of the under figure being present in the fields, I would like to show that this type of overdate has been identified in another 19th century coinage series.



1877/6 Half Dollar

Shown below is a picture of the first two digits of the date of an 1884-CC Morgan dollar with a repunched date. Please note that traces of the underdate lie on the top surfaces of these two digits. The spur at the bottom of the 8 is a die crack. This coin is Uncirculated, making the two different punch positions clearly visible.

At this point, the highest graded 1877/6 half dollar is AU-55. Two more examples in lower grades are also known. I hope that in any revision of their book on the Seated half dollar series, Wiley and Bugert will give this variety the overdate listing it properly deserves.

Repunched Date on 1884-CC Morgan Dollar

★—★ Collective Volumes Available ★—★

In order to make the information in the early issues of the Gobrecht Journal available to all LSCC members, the club has chosen to reprint the articles in these issues in hard bound collective volumes. There have been three collective volumes printed to date, each containing the material printed in the journal over a period of five years. The articles in these collective volumes have been ordered by denomination and date to make it easy for the reader to locate a specific article or to research a specific date. The first section contains articles of general interest which cut across denominations. Subsequent sections contain information on specific denominations starting with half dimes and progressing through to dollars. These volumes contain many original articles on Seated coinage not available in any other numismatic books currently on the market.

The collective volumes represent the latest available research on the silver Liberty Seated coinage of the 19th century. Each book is attractively bound in a hard cover in a 7 by 10 inch format. All prices include postage.

Collective Volume Number One

This volume contains the material published in the first 18 issues of the journal that were released between December 1974 and July 1980. This volume contains almost 390 pages of material on Seated coins. Price: $29 per copy.

Collective Volume Number Two

This Volume contains the material published in Issues #19 to #33 of the journal that were released between November 1980 and July 1985. This volume contains 380 pages of material on Seated coins. Price: $29 per copy.

Collective Volume Number Three

This volume contains the material published in Issues #34 to #48 of the journal that were released between November 1985 and July 1990. This volume contains 470 pages of material on Seated coins. Price: $34 per copy.

Make all checks payable to LSCC and send to:
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5718 King Arthur Dr.
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Letters to the Editor

After studying the article on the 1842 Seated dollar with rim cuds in Issue #58 of the journal, I was pleased to find a similar coin at a local show in March. My coin grades a nice XF-40 and has all three cuds fully developed. After reading David Rubin's letter on this variety in Issue #59 of the journal, I examined my coin in further detail. I found the doubling at the base of the 2 to be very sharp and clear at the lower edge. I also observed the raised metal in the base of the rock above and between the 4 and 2. On my coin, this extra metal seems to be too regular to be a simple die chip, but I believe that it could be the remains of a misplaced 2. This feature also shows clearly in the photograph in Issue #58 of the journal.

Finally, my coin shows many fine die polish lines all around the scroll on the shield, including some inside the letters of LIBERTY, and heavier lines between Miss Liberty's upper arm and the pole. Hopefully there are enough 1842 dollars around to find an example of this variety before the cuds developed and additional coins that will add to the rim cud progression of the obverse die.

Bert A. Schlosser
LSCC #1528

❖

I would like to thank Chris Pilliod for illustrating the Second Obverse for the 1847 Doubled Die Reverse quarter in Issue #59 of the journal. In light of the die state evidence, it is perhaps unfortunate that this obverse die is listed first by both Breen and Briggs in its pairing with the Doubled Die Reverse. As Chris clearly reminds us, this Second Obverse without doubling at the date was used with a clearly deteriorating Doubled Die Reverse.

However, Chris's comments about the relative rarity of the two varieties is not borne out by Breen's statements on relative rarity of the two varieties in his encyclopedia or by the Liberty Seated Quarter Survey results reported in Issue #59 of the journal. In his LSCC Seated quarter survey, Larry Briggs reports eight 1847 quarters with the Doubled Die Reverse versus only four 1847/7 quarters with the Doubled Die Reverse. Since these varieties are well documented, it is unlikely that anyone attributing these coins would miss the repunched 47 on the obverse. Therefore, I submit that we should be able to take the results of the survey data as a reasonable estimate to the relative rarity of these two die pairs.

Harry Salyards
LSCC #505

❖

Having just received Issue #59 of the journal, I was surprised to read David Rubin's letter regarding the 1842 Seated dollar with multiple rim cuds. I had acquired a high grade example of a similar coin just two days earlier. My coin appears to be an intermediate die state between the Rubin coin and the Briggs coin illustrated in Issue #58 of the journal.

The cud outside the 12th and 13th stars appears to match the cud described for the other two coins. The cud outside the first to third stars appears to be very similar to the cud described for the Rubin coin, being complete to the top of the first star and showing only a die crack continuing to the bottom of the third star. However my

coin shows a strong die crack along 10 denticles below the date, an early stage of the third cud described for the Briggs coin. It therefore can be stated that the third cud began to appear before the second cud was fully developed.

The extra metal at the base of the rock described by Rubin is plain to the naked eye. In fact this feature can be seen in the photograph of the Briggs coin in Issue #58 of the journal. It would be interesting to check coins of this date from other obverses to see how pervasive the cud problem was. An acquaintance of mine recently made the comment that 1842 dollars are known for rim cuds. I find it hard to believe that all of these coins would have survived from a single obverse die. Perhaps these cuds developed because of the quality of die steel used by the mint in 1842.

Alex A. Pancheco
LSCC #1345

❖

In Issue #58 of the journal, I reported the discovery of a new variety of the 1858-S Seated quarter with the San Francisco mintmark located entirely to the left of the crotch between the feather and the stem. In the recent Liberty Seated quarter survey, only one example of this variety was reported, the discovery coin. I would like to report that a second example of this variety has been identified. I have been able to purchase this coin that grades a choice G/VG. This coin increases the number of known examples of this variety to two! Keep looking, other examples of this rare variety are certainly out there waiting to be identified by the knowledgeable collector.

Larry Briggs
LSCC #255

❖

I would like to report that I have found an 1870-CC Seated dollar that grades about XF with Reverse 5 as illustrated by Joe Jaffe in Issue #31 of the journal. The attribution of this rare variety was confirmed by Liberty Seated dollar specialist Carl Feldman. I would also like to report that I own an AU 1845 Seated dollar that has a small die line about an eighth of an inch long that comes up at about a 45 degree angle from the left foot of the 1. The inside upper loop of the 8 shows what appear to be die polish lines within this loop. There are also excessive die polish lines inside the triangular portion of the 4 as well as at the right side of the 4.

I would like to recommend that LSCC publish a Liberty Seated Dollar Die Variety Guide in the Gobrecht Journal. I would be happy to work with a group of Seated dollar specialists on the preparation of such a guide should there be sufficient interest in this project.

Michael S. Fey
LSCC #1517

Quite a few years ago I purchased an XF 1860 Seated dollar from Dennis Garstang that had at least five or six cuds at various locations around the rim. At first I thought that these defects were the result of rim damage, but upon closer examination I was able to confirm that they were rim cuds.

I also have an 1842 Seated dollar that has a raised area that appears as a lump on the surface of the coin. This defect is located in the left field area on the obverse. I had the opportunity to show this particular coin to Ron Severa who informed me that 1842 dollars are occasionally seen with this defect that may have been caused by a damaged die.

Joe Trezza
LSCC #885

Presented below is a small piece on the Trade Dollar that was published in The Fashion Magazine around 1880. This piece clearly shows that these coins were not well liked by citizens during the latter part of the 19th century.

The Trade dollar is an infidel coin, it has no redeemer. It is like a dude because it is lacking in cents. It's like a drunkard because it doesn't pass at par. It is like a boy when his father is thrashing him, because it's below par. It is like a laundry, it belongs to the Chinese trade. It is like a sluggish stream, it will not pass current. It is like cornerstone deposits, it's base coin. It's like a politician's promise, only taken at a discount. It is like a julep, it needs the mint to make it good.

James H. Adams
LSCC #1484

LSCC Annual Meeting

The 21st Annual Meeting of LSCC will be held in conjunction with the 103rd Anniversary Convention of the American Numismatic Association. The convention will be held at Cobo Hall in Detroit, Michigan from July 27th to July 31st, 1994. The club meeting has been scheduled for 9:00 am on Thursday, July 28th in Room 71 at Cobo Hall. Please try to attend. There will be an announcement of the results of this year's election of Officers, an announcement of the article selected as the best to appear in the journal during the last year, a short business meeting and an opportunity for members to exchange information on Seated coins.

The business meeting will include a financial report for the current year by the club Secretary-Treasurer, the setting of dues for the next club year and a report on the sales of the three collective volumes of the journal. Every attempt will be made to keep the discussion on each agenda item short and to the point so that we can have a brisk, informative session.

The Editor

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Reverse Picture of
1846 Proof
Half Dime

Your comments on any of the articles, ads, or club policies are invited. This is your club and the Officers are dedicated to operating it on behalf of the members. Address any comments to:

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